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INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Rumania

SUBJECT Union of Working Youth in Rumania/Criticisms
of Rumanian Youth Brigades

REPORT

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- During the 1954 harvesting season, the UTM (Uniunea Tineretului Muncitoresc, Union of Working Youth) can best carry out its tasks by persuading all youth members to work. Here is a typical way in which members can be made enthusiastic. One group of two or three UTM members may read a newspaper during the noon lunch hour while another group edits the daily "hand circular" which informs brigade members of their achievements during the preceding day and also of their shortcomings. Still another UTM group might disseminate information on advanced methods of labor, issue propaganda on leading workers, and combat lack of discipline among youths. The UTM has to appeal to the youth members to be among the leading workers on the night shift. The political work of the agitators, with slogans and charts, must continue out in the open during all the time that threshing and haymaking continues.
- The Pitesti City UTM Committee, and particularly one of its secretaries, /fnu/ Grasune, have been blamed for failure to organize the Pitesti UTM members. Gheorghe Cristea, a Communist correspondent, published the following in a newspaper: "An open letter to Petre Buzatu, first secretary of the Pitesti City UTM Committee:" The letter blames Buzatu for making false claims as to the existence of 36 UTM brigades and 7 UTM control stations at the "11 Iunie" Plant, whereas no such brigades actually existed. Buzatu is further blamed for failure to supervise UTM activities. Ioan Iacomi, first secretary of the Pitesti Regiune UTM Committee, was fully aware of conditions at the "11 Iunie" Plant but failed to take any measures for improvement.
- Rumania's youth brigades are continually attacked by the Party for their failures and shortcomings. For example, the UTM organization of Sacadate, in Sibiu Raion, is blamed for failing to allot specific quotas to each brigade and to take measures for improving discipline and eliminating waste. UTM groups are also blamed for failure to investigate absenteeism. Even though it is more difficult to supervise youth workers in summer, it is still the duty of the UTM to supervise the youth brigades and to solve all problems, whether political or pertaining to work.

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